

# SHOW ME EXPRESS

## *State Library Newsletter*

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## Message from the State Librarian

**Robin Westphal, State Librarian**



Call me Pollyanna, but as 2020 comes to a close, I can't help but to be overly optimistic about 2021. For the next few paragraphs, I am not even going to mention the Big C or Merriam-Webster's 2020 Word of the Year. No talk of mandates or

quarantining materials in this column.

I can't help think about exciting opportunities to potentially build partnerships with the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) and to build on the State Library's relationship with the Department of Economic Development.

The new year will bring with it Wolfner Library's opportunity to better serve patron with the implementation of Duplication on Demand. This process will reduce wait times for talking books and allow patrons to have customized cartridges containing multiple book titles on one cartridge. This is huge for our patrons and for our staff. Leslie Bowman, with her vast experience, is the right person to lead Wolfner as the library transitions to this better, more efficient service model.

Reference Services is going to continue to expand the department's reach and have more to offer state employees and public library directors. Laura Kromer's team will continue to present timely, useful webinars to state employees and Laura is committed to increasing Reference Services' visibility and relevance to the 60,000+ state employees across the state. The public library professional development collection will grow and you can bet there will be new titles aimed at managing, providing programs and just keeping your wits about you should we ever have a year like 2020 again.

2021 is the year that the Library Development staff and I will begin the process of creating our next LSTA five-year plan. We will be seeking your input as we consider priorities for LSTA funding over the next five years. I remember being part of the process as a library director and looking forward to the collaboration that inherently comes out of this exercise. All of us here crave that personal, one-on-one connection with libraries and are looking forward to seeing you, yes really seeing you, as we work on this plan. Debbie Musselman and her team will continue to offer outstanding opportunities and programs in 2021, and I know we have the right people in place to serve as your Library Development team.



Finally, I look forward to strengthening our partnerships with our supporting agencies. MOREnet, MALA, Amigos, MASL, MLA and MOBIUS are all critical to our success and I know we will be relying on each other even more in 2021.

So goodbye 2020. While I can appreciate that you made us adaptable and responsive, I'm not going to miss you. Hello 2021, I don't know you yet, but I am hopeful that you have great things in store for us.



## Missouri State Library News

### Human Resources Series

Did you know there is a series dealing with human resources in the Missouri State Library's webinar archives? Topics include:

- [Human Resources Personnel Law](#)
- [Personnel Policies and Effective Communication](#)
- [Hiring and Evaluating Employees](#)
- [Discipline and Terminating Employees](#)

The series, presented by staff of Sikich HR Consulting, was funded through the Institute of Museum and Library Services under the provisions of the Library Services and Technology Act, as administered by the Missouri State Library.

### New Collection in Missouri Digital Heritage

A new collection from the Missouri State Archives is now available through Missouri Digital Heritage. The [Secretary of State Publications Division Official Manual Photograph Contest Collection](#) contains winning photographs from statewide photograph contests conducted by the Missouri Secretary of State's Office. Beginning with the 1987-1988 *Official Manual State of Missouri*, known as the *Blue Book*, the Secretary of State's Office asked members

of the public to submit photographs to be judged by a panel. Each year's contest was a particular theme, and usually the theme had subcategories. Winning entries were published in the Blue Book.

Explore more Missouri history collections at <http://www.MissouriDigitalHeritage.com>. Institutions wishing to participate in Missouri Digital Heritage may contact [mdh@sos.mo.gov](mailto:mdh@sos.mo.gov).

### STEM Kits

Code and Go Robot Mice, Dash and Dot, Cubelets, and VR Headsets are all available through the State Library's STEM Kit program. Kits can be checked out for 45 days and delivery costs are taken care of by the Missouri State

Library. Missouri school and public libraries can reserve the kits [here](#). Contact Lysha Thompson, Youth Services Consultant with questions at [lysha.thompson@sos.mo.gov](mailto:lysha.thompson@sos.mo.gov).

### Children and Teens Services Forum

The Children and Teens Services Forum meets the first Friday of every month to discuss relevant topics for youth services staff. You can register for the monthly forum [here](#). Have a topic to suggest?

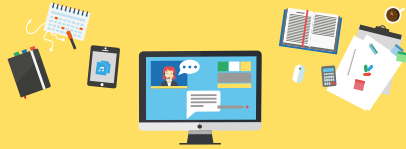
Have a program you would like to share? Reach out to Lysha Thompson, Youth Services Consultant at [lysha.thompson@sos.mo.gov](mailto:lysha.thompson@sos.mo.gov).

## Creating a Welcoming Physical Space at the Library to Support Adults with Autism

The Missouri State Library has partnered with Monarch Center for Autism to create a webinar series on how libraries can help serve their patrons who are on the autism spectrum. The most recent session *Supportive and Welcoming Spaces for Individuals with Autism in the Library Setting* can be found at the link below:  
<https://mostatelibrary.watch.more.net/#/videos/0bcee5ff-8fcf-41b3-b9c9-1c40edc4550a>

If you missed our first session it is available in our archives here: <https://mostatelibrary.watch.more.net/#/videos/7d8d84c5-0b80-4906-9378-b36a1c094a93>

For any questions you may have please contact Merideth Johnson at (573) 751-1822 or [merideth.johnson@sos.mo.gov](mailto:merideth.johnson@sos.mo.gov).



## Mid-America Library Alliance's Webinars

***An Introduction to "Viewers' Advisory": Readers' Advisory Goes to the Movies!* with Katie Stover, Director of Readers' Services, Kansas City Public Library on Wednesday, Dec. 9, from 2 to 3 p.m.**

Just as every book has its reader, every movie has its watcher. While books and movies share some elements—characters, plot, pacing, tone—there are things movies can do that books can't (and the book isn't always better!) Learn the key elements movies share with books, how they

differ, and how to engage patrons about what they're watching with the same confidence you have in recommending great reading. Viewers' Advisory is a must-have skill for everyone! For more information click [here](#).

***Taking Care of Your Staff (and Yourself) During the COVID-19 Pandemic* with April Roy, Director, Plaza Branch, Kansas City Public Library on Wednesday, Dec. 16, from 2 to 3 p.m.**

This FREE encore presentation of the popular one-hour program, co-sponsored by Missouri State Library, and MALA, will motivate and inspire staff and managers from libraries large and small. We are all navigating through uncharted waters created by the virus outbreak, ongoing library shutdowns, and the turmoil in our communities.

MLA Past President and award-winning Library Director April Roy helps us confront painful realities, and proposes effective strategies to help all of us working in libraries to move forward with confidence and optimism into 2021. For more information click [here](#).

***Story Time and Outreach Skills in the Pandemic Staying Connected to Our Youngest Library Users* with Patrick Peterson, Children's Services Librarian, Basehor Community Library on Tuesday, Jan.12, 2021, 2 to 3 p.m.**

COVID-19 has dramatically changed the way we interact with our most faithful library patrons. Librarians have created virtual opportunities to replace library programs like story time and after school outreach, but we struggle with the lack of person-to-person interactions. Join Patrick

Peterson as he shares his ideas about embracing virtual formats for our youngest users. This one-hour webinar will help you revitalize your story times and youth outreach with tips and tricks on how to engage youth, parents and caregivers. For more information click [here](#).

## Upcoming MALA Training

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**Children's Youth Specialist Webinars – Feb. 3, 2021**

**Self-care Webinar – Feb. 24, 2021**

## MOREnet Webinars

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### ***Tips and Tricks for Recording Video, Dec. 14, 10 – 11 a.m.***

For the novice or non “videographer”, working with video can seem complex and frustrating. Getting it to look like you want to, especially on a budget and not much equipment is possible if you follow some simple rules and learn to get the most out of your equipment. This session will talk

about the tricks to improve and control sound and light, your two biggest enemies in recording. We will also use some cool tools that we can use to check our lighting and “listen” to our recording space. Registration for this session is available at [Tips and Tricks for Recording Video](#).

### ***Setting Up a Space for Recording, Dec. 15, 10 – 11 a.m.***

As the need for recording lessons and live classroom events has increased, so also has the need to carve out an appropriate space for recording. Since most of us do not have professional studios or thousands of dollars to spend on equipment, how can we set up something that will help us make better videos? It is actually pretty simple and most solutions are inexpensive. Understanding your tools, adding extra light, finding a little better mic and some

easy ways to control sound can go a long way to improving your recordings. This hour long session will talk about little changes you can make and some equipment tips and tricks you can use to make great video recordings. Registration for this session is available at [Setting Up a Space for Recording](#). These are only a few of the upcoming webinars available from MOREnet. Visit [MOREnet's Training Schedule](#) to see the complete list.

## Upcoming Amigos Trainings

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### ***Save the Date for: “Moving On: Migrating Library Content and Data”***

“This link worked yesterday – why doesn't it work now?” When it comes to integrated library systems and electronic resources platforms, the one constant is change. These processes can be daunting, but they do not have to be scary. Join us Feb. 11, 2021, as we explore ways to lessen the

pain of migrations between library systems and platforms. Conferences and a large selection of classes are free for Amigos members and early-bird discounts are available. For more offerings, visit the Amigos [online course schedule](#).

### ***Documenting Library Work: Lessons We Can Learn from Technical Writers, Dec. 7, 1:30 p.m.***

Have you ever tried to write a how-to manual or other documentation for your library's processes?

Stop waiting for a “slow period” that never comes around – join us to get started!

### ***Augmented, Virtual, and Mixed Realities: The Possibilities and Limitations, Dec. 9, 10 a.m.***

All three have many obvious benefits for learning, work, and social engagement. What about the

associated ethical concerns? Review what you need to know before fully embracing.

### ***Soft Skills for Library Staff, Dec. 10, 1 p.m.***

Virtual and face to face soft skills are critical to today's employers in every industry especially in libraries. Employers overwhelmingly highlight the equal need for soft skills and hard skills in

professional development. We will consider ways library workers at every level can identify areas for improving their individual soft skills sets.



### **Website Accessibility for Everyone, Dec. 16, 1 p.m.**

Websites are considered accessible when all visitors regardless of physical or developmental abilities or impairments are able to access the presented information. In this workshop, explore

regulations, the kinds of user-related issues that need to be considered, as well as tools, content, and design best practices to create better accessibility design.

### **Beginning Genealogy - Free Resources, Jan. 4, 1:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.**

Where do we come from? Researching family history is becoming more popular with subscription services such as 23andMe ancestry kits. But what if we don't want to spend a fortune? We all have a history and lack of funds

should not be a barrier. Familiarize yourself with free websites and databases as well as local resources so that you can research your own history, help a patron research, or conduct a class on genealogy.

## **Laura Ingalls Wilder: The Real Story**

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Join Wolfner Library for a special ZOOM event featuring Laura Keyes as Laura Ingalls Wilder. Do you know Laura Ingalls Wilder? Not the girl from the books, and not the woman from the television – this is the real Laura Ingalls Wilder. In this presentation, you will

hear the real history of Laura Ingalls Wilder, and discover the times, places, and people that

inspired her books. The beloved Little House books are based on Laura's life, but they are fiction. This program explores the real life of Laura Ingalls Wilder with all its hardships and tragedies. (This program is designed for ages 10 and older). This event will be held on Jan. 12, 2021, at 7 p.m. To register, call Wolfner Library or sign up online at <https://bit.ly/3mpHhMV>. This event is open to the general public.

*Photo Credit: Robert Kaplafka.*



## **Wolfner Talking Book and Braille Library Webinar**

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### **Assistive Technology for Libraries, Jan. 14, 10 – 11 a.m., with Amy Nickless, Adult Services Librarian**

Differently-abled patrons exist in every community. What can public libraries do to be more welcoming to these patrons? Incorporate assistive technologies! Ranging from low-tech braille signage to specialized software and devices, assistive technologies help to increase the independence of these patrons. This webinar will cover how to make your library's websites and documents accessible to patrons

using screen reader software, learning about software that can be used to make public access computers and smart devices accessible and discovering the steps your library can take to make sure online resources are accessible to patrons with disabilities. Registration is required and can be completed at [Assistive Technology for Libraries](#).

## Reference Services for YOU: Missouri Documents by Topic

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The pandemic has hit local and small businesses hard this year, so Reference Services is sharing some resources to help your patrons shop local for their holiday giving. Several Missouri state agencies offer tools to find local, often handmade, gifts near your community:

- [Buy Missouri Business Directory](#) - Search by county or city to find local businesses, goods and services. Many small businesses now offer delivery.
- [Missouri Grown](#) - Search or browse to find freshly made foods and other gifts made near you. Also check out their new Holiday Gift Box option, shipped right to your home!
- [Missouri Minority and Women Owned Businesses search](#) - The Missouri Office of Equal Opportunity provides a certified a list of these Missouri vendors. Search by commodity or city.

Please share these tools with your patrons, and anyone else in your life looking for unique gifts. Find databases like these and more in our [Missouri State Agency Databases](#) libguide. If you or a patron have questions about Missouri state government databases, please contact Reference Services by phone, email, or chat. We are available Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., and always happy to help. Happy Holidays!

**Phone:** (573) 751-3615

**Email:** [libref@sos.mo.gov](mailto:libref@sos.mo.gov)

**Chat:** visit [mostate.libguides.com](https://mostate.libguides.com) and click the "Ask Us" tab on the right



## New! Leadership Books From The Missouri State Library

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- [Library Management 101, 2nd edition](#)
- [Metadata for Transmedia Resources](#)
- [Social Tagging in a Linked Data Environment](#)
- [Linked Data for the Perplexed Librarian](#)
- [Makerspace and Collaborative Technologies](#)
- [Framing Health Care Instruction: An Information Literacy Handbook for the Health Sciences](#)
- [The Library Screen Scene: Film and Media Literacy in Schools, Colleges, and Communities](#)
- [Seamless Youth Services for Every Age and Stage](#)
- [50+ Programs for Tweens, Teens, Adults, and Families: 12 Months of Ideas](#)
- [25 Projects for Global Explorers](#)

We are pleased to offer direct borrowing from the Missouri State Library to Missouri public library directors and branch managers

for continuing education and professional development.

State Library cards are issued in the name of the library director or branch manager. Directors and branch managers are encouraged to borrow items for any of their library's staff with this card by placing a request in our [catalog](#).

To sign up for a card, visit our [guide for Missouri public library directors](#). The guide also features new books, government publications, and other helpful resources.

For assistance with placing requests, obtaining a card, replacing a card, or for additional information, please contact Reference Services by phone, email, or chat. We are available Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., and are always happy to help!

**Phone:** (573) 751-3615

**Email:** [libref@sos.mo.gov](mailto:libref@sos.mo.gov)

**Chat:** visit [mostate.libguides.com](https://mostate.libguides.com) and click the "Ask Us" tab on the right

# Around the State

## Welcome New Directors!

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**Amanda Miller** at Bonne Terre Memorial Library  
**Elizabeth Bradley** at Marion County Library Sub District 1

**Breann Turner** at La Plata Public Library  
**Linda Sanders** at Bethany Public Library



## Grant Opportunities

### Author Visit Grant • **DEADLINE: Ongoing**

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This grant is specifically designed for school or public libraries to bring an author to their community. Virtual events are also applicable. Grants range from \$500 up to \$5,000. All travel for the author must be included as part of a flat rate fee for the author. Other additional costs allowable: publicity and promotional items, up to \$500 towards library materials for collection

development related to the project, additional staff hours, and transportation for youth from school or licensed child care. These grants are supported by IMLS under the provision of the Library Services and Technology Act as administered by the Missouri State Library. Questions? Contact Lysha Thompson, Youth Services Consultant, at [lysha.thompson@sos.mo.gov](mailto:lysha.thompson@sos.mo.gov) or (573) 522-9564.

### Show Me Steps to Continuing Education: Individual Training Events • **DEADLINE: Ongoing**

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Interested in attending a professional development opportunity, but need additional funds? Show Me Steps to Continuing Education grants provide reimbursement for up to 75% of the costs of an eligible, non-credit continuing education event. These grants are supported by

IMLS under the provision of the Library Services and Technology Act as administered by the Missouri State Library. If you have questions about Show Me Steps grant opportunities, please contact Merideth Johnson at (573) 751-1822 or [merideth.johnson@sos.mo.gov](mailto:merideth.johnson@sos.mo.gov).

### Show Me Steps to Continuing Education: Group Training Events • **DEADLINE: Ongoing**

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Do you want to bring an expert to your library for training? This is a competitive grant program that provides funds for a host library or library consortium to plan and provide group training(s) on current, relevant, unique and/or in-demand topics at a local, regional or statewide level. Grants range from \$500 up to \$8,000. Virtual events are

also applicable. These grants are supported by IMLS under the provision of the Library Services and Technology Act as administered by the Missouri State Library. If you have questions about this Show Me Steps grant opportunity, please contact Merideth Johnson at (573) 751-1822 or [merideth.johnson@sos.mo.gov](mailto:merideth.johnson@sos.mo.gov).